



MILLBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

WILLBURY & BUCK

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
Town of Millbury,
For the Year ending March 6th, 1884.

WORCESTER :
PRINTED BY C. F. LAWRENCE & Co., 410 MAIN STREET,
First National Bank Building.

Town Officers for 1883.

SELECTMEN.

*A. T. BRIGGS, E. H. ALDRICH,
S. N. ROGERS.

TOWN CLERK.

IRA N. GODDARD.

TREASURER.

DAVID ATWOOD.

COLLECTOR.

H. A. RYAN.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

JOHN BROADBENT, HENRY MARBLE,
SULLIVAN BANCROFT.

ASSESSORS.

HERVEY PARK, CHAUNCEY MORSE,
G. W. MALLALIEU.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

THOMAS WHEELOCK,	Term expires 1884.
DAVID T. MARCH,	" 1885.
GEORGE C. WEBBER,	" 1886.

TRUSTEES OF TOWN LIBRARY.

JOHN HOPKINS,	Term expires 1884.
IRVING B. SAYLES,	" 1885.
D. EDMUND MARCH,	" 1886.

TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES.

DAVID ATWOOD,	Term expires 1884.
NATHAN H. SEARS,	" 1885.
JOHN BROADBENT,	" 1886.

CONSTABLES.

HERBERT A. RYAN,	FREEMAN VANORNUM,
JAMES CLARK,	CHARLES P. STREETER,
CHAS. H. WRIGHT,	A. B. SLOCOMB,
THOMAS BROWN,	EDWARD ANDERSON,
	LEWIS NOE.

* Resigned June 6.

Town Warrant.

WORCESTER, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Millbury, in the County of Worcester,

GREETING:

IN the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Millbury, qualified to vote in elections, and in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Millbury, on Monday the seventeenth day of March, instant, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:—

- Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.
- Art. 2. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
- Art. 3. To bring in their votes "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?"
- Art. 4. To hear the reports of the several Town Officers, and committees, and act thereon.
- Art. 5. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges and payment of debt for the year ensuing, and make appropriations of the same.
- Art. 6. To determine the time when all taxes shall be payable, and make regulations concerning the payment of the same.
- Art. 7. To raise and appropriate money for the care and improvement of the Town Library.
- Art. 8. To raise and appropriate money for the care and improvement of the Cemeteries.

Art. 9. To see if the Town will accept the list of names prepared by the Selectmen to be placed in the jury box, or take action relating to the same.

Art. 10. To see what compensation the Town will allow members of the Fire Department for their services.

Art. 11. To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money to be placed at the disposal of the Selectmen, for use in prosecuting persons selling intoxicating liquors illegally.

Art. 12. To see if the Town will authorize its Collector to use all means of collecting taxes, which a town treasurer, when appointed collector, may use.

Art. 13. To see if the Town will authorize its Treasurer to borrow money for the use of the Town.

Art. 14. To appropriate money to defray the expenses of a suitable observance of Memorial Day.

Art. 15. To determine the manner of repairing the highways, townways and bridges the year ensuing.

Art. 16. To see if the Town will appropriate any money for the lighting of the streets.

Art. 17. To see if the Town will appropriate any money to take care of the clocks on the meeting-houses in town.

Art. 18. To see in what manner the Town will direct their town meetings to be warned.

Art. 19. To see if the Town will appropriate any money to keep the sidewalks in repair.

Art. 20. To see if the Town will elect or provide for the appointment of a Board of Health or take any action relative thereto.

Art. 21. To see if the Town will adopt By-laws for directing and managing its prudential affairs, preserving the peace and good order therein, and affix penalties for breaches of such by-laws, or take any action relative thereto.

Art. 22. To see if the Town will, by its vote or otherwise, ask the Legislature to extend to women who are citizens the right to hold town offices and to vote in Town affairs on the same terms as male citizens.

- Art. 23. To see if the Town will vote to put two culverts in the roads near the school house in Park Hill District.
- Art. 24. To see what action the Town will take in regard to improving Central Cemetery, by removing the Town Tomb and Hearse House, and grading and curbing a space on the South side of the Avenue leading to the old part of the cemetery, corresponding to that recently finished on the North side.
- Art. 25. To see if the Town will reimburse M. P. Shahan for rent of tenants while they were confined in his houses on account of the small pox, and for damages to the premises in consequence of the same.
- Art. 26. To see if the Town will purchase a Hook and Ladder Truck for the use of the Fire Department, or take any action relating thereto.
- Art. 27. To raise and appropriate money to pay the expenses of the Committee on the Pollution of the Blackstone River by the Worcester Sewage, or take any action in regard to the matter.
- Art. 28. To see if the Town will cause arrangements to be made for giving fire alarms.
- Art. 29. To see if the Town will purchase a stone-crusher, for use in repairing the highways, and raise and appropriate money therefor.
- Art. 30. To see if the Town will accept of the town way as recently laid out by the selectmen, from a point on the northerly line of Canal Street, near the carriage shop of the late Maynard Putnam, in a northeasterly direction to a point in the old County road from Millbury to Worcester, about 49 rods southeasterly from the Franklin Howe house, and raise and appropriate money therefor.
- Art. 31. To see if the Town will instruct the Selectmen to lay out a town way, from a point near the Lavery house, so called, to a point near the residence of Cornelius Sullivan, on Sycamore Street, and to bring the matter before the Town for action at some future time.
- Art. 32. To see if the Town will instruct the Overseers of the Poor to obey the By-law of the Town regarding the care of truants, adopted by the town and approved by the Courts in 1865, or take any action thereon.

Art. 33. To see if the Town will vote to choose the Janitor for the Town House in the same manner as the Tax Collector is now chosen, or take any action relating thereto.

Art. 34. To see if the Town will pave the gutter on the west side of the street near the house of A. B. Lovell, and raise and appropriate money therefor.

Art. 35. To see if the Town will instruct the Selectmen to connect the Reading Room by door way with Blanchard Hall.

Art. 36. To see if the Town will repair the drain on West Street from near the house of C. F. Gale to the river, and raise and appropriate money therefor.

Art. 37. To see if the Town will dig a well, for the use of the school, on Old Common, and raise and appropriate money therefor.

Art. 38. To choose any Committee or Committees that may be thought necessary.

Art. 39. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to employ counsel in any suit which may be brought against the Town.

Art. 40. To see if the Town will authorize the School Committee to employ a Superintendent of Schools, and will raise and appropriate money to pay such Superintendent.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up an attested copy thereof, at each of the Post Offices and one other public place in said Town, seven days at least before the time for holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS, this seventh day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.

E. H. ALDRICH, } *Selectmen of*
S. N. ROGERS, } *Millbury.*

Selectmen's Report.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Millbury:

Your Selectmen respectfully present the following Report of the financial condition of the Town for the year ending March 5th, 1884:

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Orders to—

C. F. Lawrence & Co., Town Reports and other printing,	\$143 91
C. H. Wright, lodging tramps and care of lockup,	61 50
H. N. Simmons, enumerating school children,	\$69 33
H. N. Simmons, services as Truant Officer,	63 50
H. N. Simmons, dispensing school supplies	<u>6 66</u>
	139 49
O. E. Cunningham, repairs on lockup,	4 97
C. H. Doe & Co., advertising reward,	3 00
J. D. Baldwin & Co., advertising reward,	4 50
Mrs. S. Dunton, meals furnished at trial of Road Machines,	3 00
A. T. Briggs, bill sundries,	13 26
A. J. Harris, Freight on Road Machine,	2 25
A. J. Harris, Team at trial of Road Machine,	<u>4 00</u>
	6 25
Hervey Park, Assessors' notices and stationery,	8 05

Orders to—

C. D. Morse, sewer account,	177 75	
Repairs on Town poor farm,	<u>1 28</u>	179 03
G. F. Williams, expense of leasing Single- tary Pond,		6 00
A. W. Lincoln & Co., repairing lock, keys and lantern,	3 25	
A. W. Lincoln & Co., pipe for watering trough and labor,	<u>9 65</u>	
		12 90
W. R. Cunningham & Son, lockup repairs,	2 65	
C. R. Stobbs, printing notices,	1 25	
Bacon, Hopkins and Bacon, legal services	5 00	
Mrs. J. Ward, storing Town weights, &c.,	2 00	
I. N. Goddard, fishing permits,	4 50	
I. N. Goddard, insurance on school house at Old Common,	<u>11 20</u>	
		15 70
F. E. Powers, coal for lockup,	4 00	
C. P. Streeter, Team on Road Machine	11 00	
A. H. Batchelor, making fish signs	3 68	
H. A. Ryan, rent of land for lockup, paid Mrs. Gover,	12 00	
H. A. Ryan, perambulating Town lines	5 00	
H. A. Ryan, serving notices,	2 00	
H. A. Ryan, returning deaths,	<u>12 00</u>	
		31 00
H. M. Goddard, coal for lockup	7 00	
H. M. Goddard, paid C. H. Smith, keys for lockup	<u>70</u>	
		7 70
Sweetser & Co., supplies for lockup	1 61	
Morris Reardon, damages on highway,	30 00	
Geo. C. Webber, M.D., registration of 16 births,	4 00	
M. D. Garfield, survey and plan of road,	6 00	
I. N. Goddard, recording births, marriages and deaths,	76 30	
I. N. Goddard, extra, writing postage and stationery	<u>40 45</u>	
		116 75
D. Mulhane, returning deaths,	5 25	
Physicians, for returning 47 births	11 75	
		\$845 20

SALARIES.

Orders to—

H. L. Bancroft, salary, Collector, 1880	\$150 00
A. T. Briggs, salary as Selectman	25 00
Hervey Park, salary as Assessor, \$125	00
Hervey Park, copying valuation,	25 00
Hervey Park, copying Assessors' report,	10 00
	160 00
Geo. W. Mallalieu, salary as Assessor,	75 00
Chauncey Morse, salary as Assessor	100 00
H. A. Ryan, salary as Collector	250 00
Geo. C. Webber, services as School Committee,	200 00
Thomas Wheelock, services as School Committee,	150 00
D. T. March, services as School Committee,	50 00
David Atwood, services as Treasurer,	100 00
E. H. Aldrich, services as Selectman	100 00
S. N. Rogers, services as Selectman	100 00

1,460 00

OLD BILLS.

Orders to C. H. Smith, lodging tramps in 1882,	\$9 25
W. E. Johnson, use of Pennock Road Machine, 1882,	10 00
H. E. Newell, bedstead for pest house,	2 00
T. Kinnier, small pox account,	4 32
John Hopkins, legal services 1881-2,	39 00

\$64 57

\$2,369 77

SCHOOLS.

Orders to School Committee,	\$9,914 27
F. E. Powers, shingles,	121 03
J. Sullivan, building brick out-building at Union School house	239 23
C. F. Lawrence, printing examination papers,	31 75

\$10,306 28

Appropriation,	\$9,000 00
State Fund,	246 21
For repairs,	500 00
	<u>\$9,746 21</u>

SCHOOL BOOKS.

Orders to I. N. Goddard (old bills \$28 25),	581 24
Received for books sold	537 99

TOWN LIBRARY.

Orders to Trustees for books, etc.,	644 16
Librarian's salary,	158 95
printing, etc.,	16 60
	<u>819 71</u>
Appropriation	\$300 00
Dog tax	358 28
	<u>658 28</u>

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Orders to Overseers (old bills \$314 26)	\$3,437 69
Appropriation	\$3,000 00

HIGHWAYS.

Orders to Newell Wood, Art. 4, Town	
Warrant,	25 00
Geo. W. Taft, Champion Road	
Machine,	250 00
S. A. Small, widening road,	
(special)	210 00
for repairs on roads	2,468 00
breaking roads,	142 17
	<u>\$3,095 17</u>
Appropriation,	\$2,500 00
Special,	200 00
	<u>\$2,700 00</u>

BRIDGES.

Orders for repairs on Bridges,		\$454 62
Appropriation,	\$500 00	

SIDEWALKS AND CROSSWALKS.

Orders for repairs on sidewalks	\$135 60	
crosswalks,	222 51	
		\$358 11
Appropriation,	\$500 00	

STREET LIGHTS.

Orders for Lighting Lamps, oil and supplies,		\$755 58
Appropriation,	\$600 00	

TOWN HOUSE.

Orders for Fuel,	320 97	
Gasoline,	315 75	
Repairs,	279 74	
Insurance,	180 00	
S. Farnsworth, Janitor,	350 00	
		\$1,446 46
Income from Town House,	\$1,439 25	

TOWN CLOCKS.

Orders to J. E. Harrington, care of Clocks,		\$50 00
Appropriation,	\$50 00	

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Order to E. Hoyle, pay of Firemen etc. 1882		\$1,521 83
Appropriation,	\$1,600 00	

STEAM FIRE ENGINE ACCOUNT.

Orders to D. Atwood, 2 steamers,	\$6,417 80	
Hose for same,	1,687 50	
New Engine House,	2,815 69	
Freight on Steamers,	66 70	
		\$10,987 69

Brought forward (orders), \$10,987 69

RUNNING EXPENSES.

Orders for Coal for Steamers,	\$50 24	
Coal for Engine House No. 2,	21 00	
Teams for drawing Engines,	66 85	
Housing Steamer No. 1,	32 31	
Fittings for Steamers,	28 01	
Rubber Clothing, &c., for fire companies,	73 00	
Supplies for Steamers,	9 47	
Furniture, &c., for Engine Company No. 2,	183 89	
Hose for West Millbury Engine,	42 75	
		\$507 52
		\$11,495 21

Appropriation for 2 Steamers, Hose and Engine House, \$11,000 00

FITTING ENGINE ROOMS IN TOWN HOUSE.

Orders for labor and materials (bills not all in), \$507 45
 Appropriation, \$600 00

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Orders to C. H. Wright,	34 25	
Thomas Brown,	60 00	
W. A. Wilcox,	40 00	
C. H. Smith,	14 00	
G. F. Rock,	6 00	
W. P. Hale,	10 20	
H. A. Ryan,	22 00	
James Clark,	6 00	
		\$192 45

CEMETERIES.

Orders to Trustees of Cemeteries, \$400 00
 Appropriation, \$400 00

MEMORIAL DAY.

Order to R. D. Loomis,	\$125 00
Appropriation,	\$125 00

TAXES PAID.

Order to H. A. Ryan, collector County Tax	\$1,690 00
D. Atwood, treasurer, State tax,	1,890 00
Bank tax,	<u>2,154 29</u>
	\$5,734 29

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Orders to H. A. Ryan, collector,	\$122 07
H. L. Bancroft,	<u>100 69</u>
	\$222 76

STATE AID.

Orders to D. Atwood, Treasurer,	\$455 00
services, postage and stationery,	<u>26 63</u>
	\$481 63

NOTES PAID.

Orders to Town Treasurer, Town Hall debt,	\$2,500 00
Temporary loan,	<u>15,100 00</u>
	\$17,600 00

INTEREST.

Orders to D. Atwood,	\$1,922 00
Appropriation	\$2,000 00

RECAPITULATION.

Miscellaneous,	\$2,369 77
Schools	10,306 28
School Books,	581 24
Library,	819 71
Support of Poor,	3,437 69

Highways,	\$3,095	17
Bridges,	454	62
Sidewalks and Crosswalks,	358	11
Street Lights,	755	58
Town House,	1,446	46
Town Clocks,	50	00
Fire Department,	1,521	83
Steam Fire Engines,	11,495	21
Fitting Engine Rooms in Town House,	507	45
Police,	192	45
Cemeteries,	400	00
Memorial Day,	125	00
Taxes paid,	5,734	29
Abatement of Taxes,	222	76
State Aid,	481	63
Notes paid,	17,600	00
Interest,	1,922	00
	<u>\$63,877</u>	<u>25</u>

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Notes to Millbury Savings Bank,	\$31,000	00
to be paid from Taxes, 1884,	<u>600</u>	<u>00</u>
		31,600 00
to State Treasurer,	15,500	00
Outstanding orders,	<u>1,510</u>	<u>71</u>
		17,010 71
		<u>\$48,610 71</u>

AVAILABLE RESOURCES.

School Books in hands of Agents,	\$400	00
Due from State for State Aid, March 1, 1884,	455	00
Due for rent of rooms in Town house,	320	00
taxes of 1882,	92	28
taxes of 1883,	1,865	58
Cash in Treasury,	<u>614</u>	<u>54</u>
	<u>\$3,747</u>	<u>40</u>

UNAVAILABLE RESOURCES.

Town House and lot,	\$40,000 00
Seven School Houses and land,	35,000 00
High School, house and lot,	7,000 00
Cemetery lots and land,	1,500 00
Lothor lot,	900 00
Town Farm,	5,000 00
Personal property on Town Farm,	2,594 21
Gravel pits,	600 00
Three old Engine houses,	500 00
New Engine house,	2,000 00
Two Steam Fire Engines and hose,	7,500 00
Three hand Fire Engines and hose,	1,000 00
Hearse house,	200 00
Hearse and harness,	200 00
Lock-up,	500 00
Champion Road Machine,	225 00
	<u>\$104,719 21</u>

FINANCIAL CONDITION.

Liabilities,	\$48,610 71
Available resources,	3,747 40
	<u>\$44,863 31</u>
Town debt, March 1, 1883,	\$40,147 99
Town debt, March 1, 1884,	48,610 71

APPROPRIATIONS.

The Selectmen recommend the following appropriations for the year ensuing :

Highways,	\$2,500 00
Bridges,	500 00
Schools,	8,000 00

Poor,	\$3,000 00
Fire department,	910 00
Repairs on school building,	500 00
Interest,	2,700 00
Miscellaneous,	3,000 00
Sidewalks,	500 00
School supplies,	500 00
Cemeteries,	400 00
Town debt,	4,100 00
	<hr/>
	\$26,610 00

Respectfully submitted,

E. H. ALDRICH,	} <i>Selectmen of</i>
S. N. ROGERS,	

LIST OF JURORS.

List of Jurors selected by the Selectmen, March 1, 1884, for the acceptance of the Town of Millbury.

Aiken, Benjamin F.	Lovell, Russell B.
Aiken, Henry A.	Lincoln, Albert W.
Bancroft, Henry L.	Lincoln, Benjamin B.
Bancroft, Sullivan,	Maxham, Chipman H.
Barton, John B.	Morse, Chauncey
Barton, John A.	March, David T.
Batchelor, Arthur H.	McCraken, George W.
Barker, Calvin W.	McCloskey, Patrick
Buck, Richard T.	McIntire, Orrin A.
Burnett, George M.	Marble, Henry
Bennett, Timothy A. M.	Mulhane, Dennis
Cunningham, Clement W.	Martin, John
Colebrook, Charles H.	Mallalieu, George W.
Crane, John C.	Pierce, John W.
Crane, Rufus R.	Powers, David A.
Carter, Henry	Percival, Charles
Dunton, Silas	Rice, Samuel
Donlon, Thomas	Rice, Benjamin T.
Davidson, Henry W.	Ring, David
Forbes, Edwards E.	Sullivan, Jeremiah T.
Flagg, Daniel	Sweetser, Henry W.
Glazier, Ira	Stockwell, Charles A.
Gale, Charles F.	Stewart, Perlín J.
Greenwood, Nathan H.	Sawyer, Samuel
Harris, Warren A.	Sullivan, James J.
Howe, William	Small, Samuel A.
Hitchcock, Charles H.	Whitworth, Charles
Herrick, Francis R.	Wood, Newell
Jones, Robert	Wood, Pliny W.
Loomis, Rodney D.	Waters, John C.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES.

Dr.

For orders received of Selectmen,	\$400 00
For cash received for care of lots,	179 25
“ “ “ 1882,	11 50
“ “ wood,	10 00
Bal. due Trustees,	61 48
	<hr/>
	\$662 23

Cr.

By cash paid labor at Central Cemetery,	\$447 23
“ “ Lower “	26 00
“ “ West Millbury,	15 00
“ “ Dwinell,	5 00
“ loam. trees, tools, fertilizers, &c.	169 00
	<hr/>
	\$662 23
Due Trustees for care of lots,	\$61 50

N. H. SEARS,	} Trustees of Cemeteries.
D. ATWOOD,	
JOHN BROADBENT,	

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

BIRTHS.

Births recorded in 1883,	116
Males 65. Females 51.	
Number of children of native parentage,	43
foreign parentage,	53
native and foreign parentage,	20
	<hr/>
	116

MARRIAGES.

Number of "Intentions" recorded	33
Parties resident in Millbury,	55
Parties resident elsewhere	11
	<hr/>
	66
Number of Marriages recorded,	49
First marriage,	84
Second marriage,	11
Third marriage	3
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	98
Average age of grooms,	28
Average age of brides,	25
Native born,	59
Foreign born,	39

DEATHS.

Number of deaths recorded,	82
Males 42. Females 40.	
Average age 33 years, 3 months.	

DOGS LICENSED.

Males 179, at \$2.00 each,	\$358 00	
Females 13, at \$5.00 each,	65 00	
		<hr/>
		\$423 00

PERMITS TO FISH IN DORITY POND.

Number of permits issued	791
Number of returns made, as required,	159
Total number of fish taken, as thus returned,	2228
Total weight " " "	1196 LBS.

IRA N. GODDARD, *Town Clerk.*

Engineers' Report.

1883.

May 5. Paid Engine Co. No. 3, 40 men at \$10	\$400 00
Polls refunded,	80 00
Steward,	12 00
No. 4, 45 men at \$10	450 00
Polls refunded,	90 00
Stewards,	11 70
No. 5,	403 83
Steward	11 00
Engineers for services	63 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,521 53

The appropriation was \$1,600 00

The Fire Department has been called out during the year as follows :

On the night of June 6, when the barn of S. H. Redding was struck by lightning.

On August 13, when the barn of Peter Dolan was also set on fire by lightning.

On the morning of December 8, between four and five o'clock, A.M., when the Burling Mills were burned.

On December 21, when an alarm was given from the house of John E. Harrington. The fire was put out before the engines arrived.

In all these instances the Fire Companies were reasonably prompt in responding to the call, if we consider the imperfect means we have for giving the alarm, the distance to the scene

of the fire, and the hour of the call. The engines showed their ability to throw water in great quantity, and to carry it a long distance through the hose.

The old engine companies, Numbers 3 and 4, have been disbanded. Company No. 5, at Grassy Hill, has been reorganized and is held ready for service.

Two new companies have been formed to have the care and management of the two new Fire Engines. They consist of twelve men each; organized by the appointment of a Foreman, Engineer, assistant Engineer and Fireman to each company. The compensation voted them by the Board of Engineers for the present year is, for the Engineer, \$50, the Assistant Engineer, \$35, the Fireman, \$25. The rest of the company to have each ten dollars and his poll tax remitted.

Repairs are needed on Engine House at West Millbury. The foundation is giving way, and the roof and floor need repairs. We recommend that \$125 be appropriated for that purpose.

We recommend that three or four platforms, suitable for the Fire Engines to stand on to draw water in case of fires, be erected on the banks of the river, at places to be selected by the Engineers, and that an appropriation not exceeding \$600 be made for that purpose.

To pay the two steam engine companies for the coming year there will be needed \$490. To pay the West Millbury Company, 35 men, \$420, making a total of \$910.

The town is without ladders for fire purposes. We recommend that \$100 be appropriated for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

PETER SIMPSON,
H. L. BANCROFT,
GEO. W. MALLALIEU,
E. J. HUMPHREY,
DAVID ATWOOD,
E. HOYLE.

Report of Committee on Steam Fire Engines.

1883.

The Committee appointed at the last annual meeting to purchase Steam Fire Engines, Fire Hose, and build an Engine House, hereby submit their report.

They have purchased two Silsby Steam Fire Engines, delivered here in running order.

Cost of Engines,	\$6,417 80
2000 feet of Fire Hose, including	
couplings,	1,687 50
Engine House at Bramanville :	2,815 69
Total cost	\$10,920 99

The appropriation was \$11,000 00

Your Committee have also fitted up accommodations for Steamer No. 1, in the Town House, as authorized at the Town Meeting in November last. The cost of the same, so far as bills rendered, \$507.45.

The appropriation was \$600 00

Respectfully submitted,

PETER SIMPSON,	}	<i>Committee</i>
H. L. BANCROFT,		
GEO W. MALLALIEU,		
E. J. HUMPHREY,		
DAVID ATWOOD,		

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

The following is the Annual Report of the Overseers of the Poor for the year ending March 1, 1884.

Alms-house expenses including salary,	\$1,360 34	
Produce sold from farm,	391 33	
		\$969 01

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Farm Implements,	\$577 25	
Live Stock,	670 00	
Hay and Grain,	321 70	
Wood and Lumber,	165 00	
Household Furniture and Cooking Utensils,	497 96	
Produce and Provision,	362 30	
		\$2,594 21

SUPPORT OF POOR AWAY FROM FARM.

Edward Tirrell,	\$6 50
Mrs. Frank Barton,	24 50
Thomas J. Proal,	15 50
James Kelly,	3 50
Mrs. James Shea and family,	193 28
Julia Cushing,	16 15
Luke Dunn's family,	11 75
Welden children,	25 02
Mary Watt,	60 00
John Little,	16 00
Mrs. T. Spring and family,	90 00

Delia Noe,	\$158 25
Matt. Toomy's family,	36 40
R. Hapwood, burial,	15 00
Rebeca Vincent,	1 63
Mrs. Joseph White and family,	5 00
Stephen Alger,	47 50
Charlie L. Stockwell,	29 25
Mrs. George White and family,	101 55
Mrs. John Connors and family,	65 30
James Conway,	4 86
Mrs. Luke Jacques and family,	95 22
Mrs. Kate Nugent and family,	35 50
Catherine Hapwood,	1 50
John Buggy,	1 50
Paid old bills of 1882,	314 26
Owen Conty, City hospital and medicine,	30 93
Wm. A. Goodell, Insane Asylum, Worcester,	187 00
Olive M. Hancock,	186 51
Patrick Quinn, Lunatic Hospital,	130 41
	<hr/>
	\$1,909 77

STATE POOR,

Mrs. Ann Leeds,	\$11 79
Louis Russell,	20 00
Mrs. Mary Callahan,	13 50
Miss Stella Wilson,	76 00
Ellen Moreau,	7 70
Josephine Rivers,	2 50
Bridget Malony,	4 50
Mr. John Lewis,	11 18
Michael Shea,	2 00
	<hr/>
	\$149 17

RECAPITULATION.

Produce sold from Town Farm,	\$391 33
Received from Town Treasurer,	3,437 69
	<hr/>
	\$3,829 02
Less amount paid Town Treasurer from other Towns,	145 75
	<hr/>
	\$3,683 27

EXPENDITURES.

Almshouse expense, including salary,	\$1,360	34
Support of Poor away from Town Farm,	1,909	27
Support of State Poor,	149	17
Services and expenses of Overseers	264	49
		\$3,683 27
Total amount of Personal property	\$2,594	21
Value of Real estate,	5,000	00
		\$7,594 21

FINANCIAL.

Almshouse expense and interest,	\$1,660	34
Deduct produce sold from Town Farm	391	33
		\$1,269 01
Whole number supported at Almshouse the past year,	15	
Number supported in part,	4	
Number supported in full,	11	
Present number at Almshouse,	9	

	Age.	When Came.
William Aldrich,	83	1878
John Jacobs,	82	1877
John Crossman,	62	1879
Edwin Livermore,	54	1844
John Dunn,	61	1882
Owen Canty,	46	1883
Johanna Gleason,	78	1879
Harriet Hosmer,	82	1869
Mary Courtney,	90	1882

Persons Aided Having Settlements in Other Towns.

Mary Ann Labonne, Northbridge.
 Ann Leeds, Northbridge.
 Mrs. Joseph Lovely, Douglass.
 Chester Ambler, Sutton.
 Toby Hart, Milford.
 Michael Coughlin, Southbridge.

BURIALS OF 1883.

Infant child of Stella Wilson,
 Stella Wilson,
 James Shea,
 Joseph Lovely,
 Angeline Russell,
 Child of Joseph Lovely,
 Luke Jacques,
 Delia Noe.

REMARKS OF OVERSEERS.

There have been bills for the support of State poor, audited and allowed by the State Board of Charities and credited to the Town in the State Treasury, amounting to \$164.42. Received from other towns for aid rendered their poor, and paid to the Town Treasurer, \$145.75, making a total of \$310.17. We have also paid old bills of 1882 out of our appropriation the past year, amounting to \$314.26. Our expenses have been more than usual on account of sickness and deaths among the poor. There has been more produce raised on the farm than usual, notwithstanding the dry weather. Produce, Provisions, and Corn unsold, as per Inventory, \$402.80. This is over and above the income, which is produce sold. We have engaged the services of the present Warden and Matron for another year, being satisfied with their services the past year. Everything about the premises indicates good care, especially in the house things are kept clean and the inmates are well provided with good, wholesome food, and are made to keep themselves clean, which is very essential to health. Most of the inmates are old and in feeble health, and require a good deal of care and attention. Some of them cannot help themselves at all, four of them are over 82 years old and need special care.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN BROADBENT,
 SULLIVAN BANCROFT,
 HENRY MARBLE,

} Overseers.
 of
 the Poor.

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REPORT

OF THE

Trustees of the Town Library.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT.

Unexpended balance, March 1, 1883, of the appropriation of 1882,	\$161 43
Amount of dog tax refunded and appropriated for the library,	358 28
Town grant,	300 00
Amount received for fines, cards and catalogues to March 1, 1884,	52 72
	<u>\$872 43</u>
Librarian's salary paid to March 1, 1884,	\$160 42
Care of reading room to July 1, 1883,	12 50
Work on Catalogue,	15 20
Estes and Lauriat for books,	578 38
A. Mudge & Sons, for catalogues,	65 78
Sanford & Co., for supplies,	10 10
W. A. Cheney, for supplies,	4 00
D. E. March, for expenses,	2 50
Incidental expenses of library,	12 85
Balance in hands of librarian, March 1, 1884,	10 70
	<u>\$872 43</u>

The trustees recommend the appropriation of the refunded dog tax for the year.

The librarian reports the number of volumes taken during the year, 9859.

Number of persons taking the same, 488.

Number taken and not returned, 2.

The librarian also reports an increasing use of the library by the teachers and scholars of our public schools for purposes of study, and that the works of reference contained in it have been more frequently consulted than heretofore.

During the year there have been added by purchase 494 volumes, classified as follows :

Works of fiction, 70 vols. ; juvenile works, 56 vols. ; descriptions and travels, 26 vols. ; poetical and dramatic works, 13 vols. ; educational and scientific works, 29 vols. ; literary and æsthetic works, 23 vols. ; miscellaneous works, 107 vols. ; agricultural and mechanical works, 14 vols. ; historical works, 53 vols. ; biographical works, 57 vols. ; magazines, 46 vols. ; making the total number of volumes now belonging to the library and catalogue, 4,676.

Section VII. of miscellaneous works embraces a valuable collection of public documents, both State and National, the former having been procured from the Secretary of State and including 92 vols of the annual reports of various Public offices and Institutions, covering the years from 1858 to 1883, and the latter having been furnished us by the Hon. W. W. Rice, our representative to Congress. While it is true that these Public Documents are not in general demand by the reading public, still the trustees wish to call attention to them as the best sources of correct information upon various topics affecting the social and political conditions of our people.

The trustees are pleased to report a constantly increasing number of volumes taken from the library, and that, as a rule, good care has been taken of the books by the readers ; during the year two volumes only have been lost and few fines have been imposed for damage done to the books.

Many of the books, however, are showing signs of wear, and it is evident that year by year it will be necessary to replace volumes which are on the catalogue, and which have proved their popularity by being worn out. A casual examination of the library shelves shows that this remark applies mainly to Section I., fiction, and affords an indication of the popular taste in the matter of reading. However much the trustees might desire the fact to be otherwise, the evidence is that books of

the highest order of literature are least in demand, and they would hardly be justified in attempting to dictate what should, and what should not be read by those who furnish the common fund with which purchases are made. The most, perhaps, that can be demanded of them is that the best books of the various classes called for by the people shall be procured. This it has been the aim of the trustees to do, and they desire to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered them by many lovers of good books who have from time to time furnished them lists from which to make selections.

Our Library, to-day, has a well recognized place among the institutions of the Town; second only to our Public Schools in its educational tendency, and being justified at the public expense only because of this tendency, it should be liberally provided for and managed in the interests of the whole people. But care must be taken lest the notion prevail that it is intended to take the place of home libraries; its true function in society is to supplement the private library and to encourage, rather than discourage, the collection of books by individuals.

And the trustees, by virtue of their office, venture to call the attention of the community to the only danger incident to the formation and maintenance of a well selected public library, namely, that it may create an indisposition to form collections of books in the homes of the people, which shall be component parts of them and inseparably associated with them.

For the ease with which the taste for reading may be gratified has with its blessings the evil common to all easily acquired good, which, being obtained without labor, we lightly esteem.

“* * * A precious thing is all the more precious to us if it has been won by work or economy; and if public libraries were half as costly as public dinners, or books cost the tenth part of what bracelets do, even foolish men and women might sometimes suspect that there was good in reading, as well as in munching and sparkling; whereas the very cheapness of literature is making even wise people forget that if a book is worth reading it is worth buying. No book is worth anything that is not worth *much*; nor is it serviceable, until it has been read and re-read, and loved and loved again; and marked, so you can

refer to the passages you want in it, as a soldier can seize the weapon he needs in an armoury, or a housewife bring the spice she needs from her store. Bread of flour is good; but there is bread sweet as honey, if we would eat it, in a good book; and the family must be poor indeed which once, in their lives, cannot, for such multipliable barley-loaves, pay their baker's bill. We call ourselves a rich nation, and we are filthy and foolish enough to thumb each other's books out of circulating libraries!"*

JOHN HOPKINS,
IRVING B. SAYLES, } Trustees.
D. E. MARCH, }

* Sesame and Lillies.—*Ruskin*.

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TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT.

For the Year ending March 6, 1884.

Dr.

To cash balance from last report,	\$570 90
of A. B. Lovell for School Books sold last year,	94 24
Waters and Frissell, rent to April 1st, 1883,	150 00
H. L. Bancroft, collector, for 1880,	267 69
S. Farnsworth, for rents of Town and Blanchard Halls at various times,	787 00
Cemetery lot, Mrs. R. E. Bowen,	25 00
Chas. Sibley, (Bal.),	75 00
C. F. Gale,	175 00
Thomas Howard,	25 00
David H. Searles,	35 00
J. Gegenheimer,	40 00
Mrs. Nutter,	25 00
L. L. Whitney for oil barrels,	5 00
Borrowed of Millbury Savings Bank in anticipation of Taxes of this year,	11,500 00
H. J. Bailey, on account of Military Co.,	25 00
G. A. R., Post 70, rent for ten years, beginning April 1, 1883,	1 00
for keeping prisoners in lockup,	50
old bridge plank sold,	1 50
C. H. Smith, Auctioneers' license,	2 00
E. Handy " "	2 00
Borrowed of Millbury Savings Bank, payable one-tenth each year, (Fire Steamer Loan)	11,000 00
Town of Southbridge for support of poor,	143 75
G. A. R., Post 70, Rent to April 1, 1883,	12 50
State Treasurer, support of State paupers,	89 42
Sundry licenses to sell fire works,	15 00
State Treasurer, support of paupers,	6 00
Burial of " "	5 00
Corporation Tax,	399 51
National Bank Tax,	201 25
State Aid,	428 00
Relief of indigent soldiers,	48 00
Support, State paupers,	24 00
Temporary,	16 00
Burial of State paupers,	10 00

To cash, Selectmen for Gun Rack sold,	\$10 00
County Treasurer, Dog Fund,	333 06
State Treasurer, School Fund,	246 21
Transportation State paupers,	1 05
Burial of State paupers,	10 00
City Treasurer, Worcester, support poor	2 00
Episcopal Mission, rent to February 1,	75 00
Grangers, rent to Jan. 1,	75 00
Borrowed of Millbury Savings Bank in anticipation of Taxes of 1884,	600 00
For Cemetery lot, D. M. Waterman,	85 00
Grangers, rent to April 1, 1884,	25 00
A. B. Lovell, school books sold,	102 35
Ira Glazier, school books sold,	44 68
School Committee, Tuition fees,	18 00
Waters and Frissell, rent 7 1-2 months,	93 75
E. Dudley, school books sold,	30 00
Mrs. Jennie T. Waller, 1-2 Cemetery lot,	5 00
I. N. Goddard, school books sold,	360 96
Wm. F. Holman, Cemetery lot,	30 00
John Hopkins for rent,	100 00
St. John Baptiste Society,	120 00
H. M. Goddard, Collector, 1882,	58 05
H. A. Ryan, collector, 1883,	35,342 71
	<hr/> \$63,973 08

Cr.

By Town orders outstanding, March 6, 1883, paid,	\$992 00
Orders of current year,	62,366 54
Cash on hand,	614 54
	<hr/> \$63,973 08
Oct. 6, 1884, there will be due to the Treasurer of the Com- monwealth a town note of	\$3,000 00
May 11, 1884, To Millbury Savings Bank,	1,100 00
	<hr/> \$4,100 00

All of which is respectfully submitted,

DAVID ATWOOD, *Treasurer*

